

President's Message:

September the start of another year for the club. I hope everyone had good spring and summer, lots of fishing and a few big fish.

Just before the 4th of July I spent several days up on the North Fork Malheur River with a friend. He was looking over the area from an elk hunting prospective and I was trout fishing. I fished several mornings and evenings and caught lots of small redband trout. The last evening I stuck my thermometer in the water and found out the temperature was well above 70°F. All fish were quickly released so no problem there, and only a couple had tooth marks from my yellow lab helper.

As expected I spent a lot of my time on the Owyhee River below the dam. Right after the 4th of July I found out ODFW had stocked 12-14 inch rainbows. The first day I fished after the 4TH, I caught eight or ten rainbows of which two were tagged. The second rainbow I caught was tagged with a reward tag worth \$50.00. I recorded the numbers off both tags then turned both fish back. After talking with Dave Banks ODFW, I realized I should have removed the reward tag, since he did not want to pay for the tag more than once. So I did not get my reward. Two days later I caught a third tagged rainbow again not a reward tag so still no reward.

On August 1st I spent a long weekend on the Imnaha River with my cousin and uncle, primarily

looking for whitefish but also hoping for a bull trout. Fished several holes from Coverdale CG upstream to Hidden CG. Landed one 9 inch

redband and several 3 inch chinook, one of which probably ended up in the brush because when the indicator went down I set the hook and it went flying. My cousin and I fished a series of holes near Evergreen CG and hit the jack pot. I landed about a dozen whitefish



running from 18 to 21 inches and one bull trout 23 inches in length.

Continued on page 5

Dues Reminder for This Month:

- Bill Betts
- Eileen Boots
- Spencer Chandler
- Janet Baker
- Julie Ernie

Welcome to New Members:

No new members in May, June, July, or August.

Officers

- President - **Ray Perkins**
541-889-4441
- 1st Vice Pres. - **Mark Sands**
549-2545
- Past President - **Tom Dyer**
257-4225
- Secretary - **Cindy Dyer**
257-4225
- Treasurer - **Jascha Zeitlin**
801-831-9459

Board Members

- Janet Baker**
Gerry Bogue
Eileen Boots
Gary Herauf
Perry Kelley
Mike Thomas

Committees

- Budget - **Jim Gulu, Jasha Zeitlin**

- Conservation & Youth - **Mark Sands**
Education - **Perry Kelley**
Fund Raising -
Historian - **Perry Kelley**
Library - **Tom Dyer**
Membership - **Gerry Bogue**
Newsletter - **Gerry Bogue**
Outings - **Al Sillonis**
Programs - **Tom Dyer, Gary Herauf**
Publicity - **Perry Kelley**



Little Field Reservoir

By Jim Gulu

April 30, 2015 found Perry Kelley, Jim Gulu, Al Sillonis, Mike Thomas, and Gerry Bogue the only ones on Little Field Reservoir. Almost 100 fat, fighty, large trout (most 12"-14" and a few over 20") were anxious to get hooked on an assortment of flies. The weather was great as well.





Club Founder Writes Book and Catches Fish!

by Perry Kelley

Club Co-Founder Mark Imus and his wife Christy now live in Grangeville, but they still keep in touch with Club members; especially Perry Kelley - the other Founder of IFF.

Mark is busy writing a book about small mouth fly fishing and does his research on the water. As you can see his techniques and flies really work! This is a small mouth bass caught up Dworshak.

Mark also did some steelhead fishing this year and did quite well. He ended up catch and releasing 80-100 fish, mostly on the South Fork, but a few on the Selway and the Salmon.

Spring Chinook Salmon on fly Rod

by Cynthia Dyer



Used a Fenwick 9 ft 9 weight fly rod with my old Pflueger reel to catch this Chinook on the Little Salmon River. The bait used was a pink 10mm trout bead with small amount of pink yarn on the hook. The biggest issue was coming up with a sinker that I could plunk out into the river with a fly rod. I ended up using parachute cord cut in two inch sections and filled with five 32 caliber sinkers. Once filled I melted cord section at both ends to secure the weights. The method used was chuck and duck. Hooked four fish so fare this season but only landed one.

Grey Drake Mayfly Nymph

- by Grant Baugh

Grey Drake Mayfly nymph from Mann Creek May 20th. Adult mayfly is about size 12....great fun on a dry early to mid afternoon hatch near the willows, or fish the nymph on an intermediate line.



Summer Fish from Ole Mike

- by Mike Thomas

A bluegill from the private pond and a 19" rainbow from Lost Valley Res.



Mann Creek - June 21st

-by Grant Baugh

Strange day....arrived about 8 am, lots of rises and we caught fish as soon as we got on the water....then it went cold....but we kept seeing aggressive rises at random locations, sometimes within reach of us, but we couldn't figure out a pattern.

Finally pumped stomachs and found fish full of 3/4" minnows....probably crappie...but didn't have 3/4" minnow fly pattern with me.

Finally realized trout were pushing minnows into bait balls and then aggressively attacking....didn't do me any good, I didn't have minnow pattern size 14 Interesting challenge to solve...got any ideas?





Presidents Message (continued)

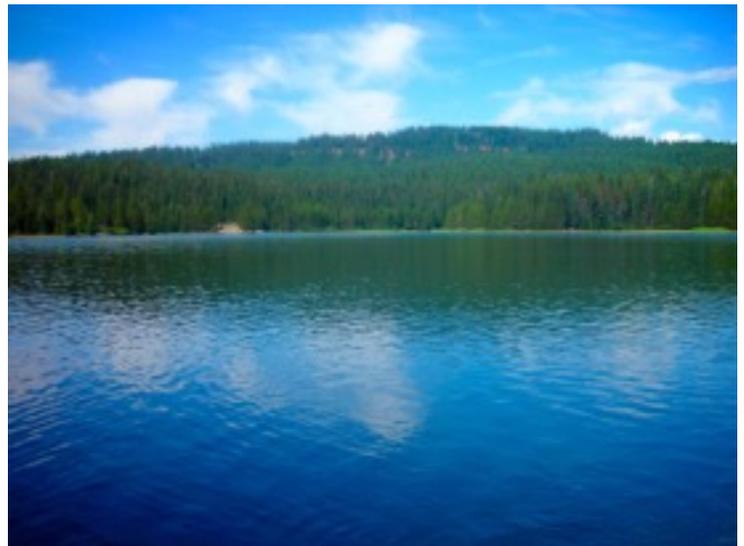
Continued from page 1

While fishing the Owyhee River in August I noticed that most of the anglers were crowded into the upper reaches from the tunnel upstream. So I decided to start learning the Boise River from Lucky Peak downstream to Eagle Island. On my first trip over I went to the Glenwood Bridge, easy to find and a parking area. I also learned it was the opening weekend of the Western Idaho Fair so traffic was horrible and lots of people walking the Greenbelt path. Warm weather also provided warm stream conditions. Water temperatures at noon when I got there were 61^oF and flow had just dropped to about 750 cfs. I fished up the small side channel next to the path and caught a 14 inch rainbow. About a half mile upstream I came to where the side channel separated from the main channel. I fished back downstream along the island that separated the small side channel from the main channel. I made a big mistake when I decided to cross the main channel to fish from the other side. I thought there was a Green Belt path on the other side of the river I could return to the Glenwood Bridge. I was wrong, no path and all private land with no access. So I got to return by crossing back across the main river channel. Well in the process of crossing back I was again reminded that crossing large fast water downstream is a lot easier and safer than returning in an upstream direction. Everything went well until I was about two steps from the return bank and the current which was almost waist deep turned me around. Now facing downstream but still upright I quickly stepped into shallower water then back to the bank. So in the future I think I shall be a little more observant before I attempt to cross large river with fast current. So I hope everyone had a good summer. I will not attend the membership meeting on September 8 because I will be out of town archery hunting. September will most likely be the only meeting I will miss at least for hunting. So I hope to see everyone in October, hear some good fishing stories.

Ray

Where did Al go fishing in August without smoky skies?

By Al Sillonis





Silver Creek an Idaho Gem Part I

by Perry Kelley

Idaho is well known for the big three: lumber, agriculture and mining. Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, western cedar, potatoes, sugar beets, beef, gold and silver have fueled our economy for years. Wait! did I say silver? I didn't mean the precious metal, no something much more precious, Silver Creek. Ask any fly fisherman about spring creeks all over the world and Silver Creek will come to mind. Just what is Silver Creek and why is it so unique?

To understand why Silver Creek is such a wonderful environment for trout think of the different major types of rivers and streams. First are the free stones—rivers whose sources are from the mountain tops. Water formed from run off and small springs gather strength and volume from other like environments until they become creeks, then small rivers and eventually end up in major rivers. Free stone rivers can be wonderful fisheries if the conditions are right. They do tend to be muddy at times, freeze up during the winter, silt up and run extremely high during spring run-off and heavy rains. Water temperature can vary to the point that it is difficult for trout to survive during the heat of the summer. The south fork of the Payette River is a good example of a free stone habitat—beautiful river great for white water rafting but only marginal as a fishery.

The next type of river is a tail-water stream, defined as a river that flows from a dam. Flow and temperature can be controlled if the conditions are right. Many tail-water rivers are great fisheries. The lower Owyhee, South Fork of the Snake and South Fork of the Boise are great examples. Waters in reservoirs tend to build up nutrients thus tail-water rivers usually have a better aquatic environment for the food chain and fish tend to become larger. Temperature

controls depend on the water temperature from the reservoir and the depth of the outlet from the dam.

Spring creeks (Silver Creek) are Mother Nature's gifts to fly fishermen. Instead of depending on runoff, water comes from ground aquifers sometimes taking years, decades or centuries to form. In the process, water going from the earth's surface to the aquifer minerals are collected adding to the vitality of the stream's ecosystem. Spring creeks such as Silver are quite often formed in the valley's floor without any chance of high runoff. Thus the waters are consistent in flow. Springs coming from the ground are consistent in temperature and volume. The aquatic vegetation is different. Spring creek vegetation tend to be more like aquarium plants and provide cover for the fish and most important the insect life that provide food for fish.

Spring creeks are revered world wide as the ultimate in trout habitats. Some of the famous ones are the chalk streams of England, the Letort of Pennsylvania., the Metolius of Oregon, the Armstrong and Nelson of Montana, California's Hat and Hot Creeks, and perhaps the most famous of all Silver Creek. Next month you will learn more about Idaho's most impressive gem.



P.O. BOX 734 WEISER, ID 83672

SEPTEMBER 2015



- Sep. 1 - IFF Board meets Idaho Pizza 7 PM.
- Sep. 8 - IFF Membership & Guests meet at Idaho Pizza 6:30 PM - Fly Tying; 7 PM Meeting
- Sep 15 - IFF Fly Tying at the Weiser Library 7 PM
- Sept. 16-21, 2015 - Fall Outing to Island Park/Henry's Fork [contact Mike Thomas for reservations]

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|----------------|-------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 1 IFF Board Meeting | 2 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 Labor Day | 8 IFF Member Meeting | 9 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 IFF Fly Tying | 16 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead | | | |

Fly of the Month - Spruce Moth

By Perry Kelley

The Spruce Moth is a terrestrial that often finds it's way in water during the mid summer months. The fly pattern is tied much like an Elk Hair Caddis. The actual insect looks much like a Caddis. A splash of color tied in front of the wing is very helpful for the angler to see his fly on the water. Spruce trees are cannon near water in our local forests.



- **Hook:** 12-16 standard dry fly
- **Thread:** Any fine thread that blends in with the wing and body.
- **Abdomen-thorax:** Gray to brown dry fly dubbing
- **Wing:** Brown Deer or elk hair.
- **Hot Spot:** Sparse hot orange calf hair or yarn.

A Short Fishing Trip

By Tail and Head [Mike T.]

Most have heard about the famous Silver Creek that runs through Picabo. Every Idahoian fly fisherman wants to say they have fished these spring fed waters where the trout are so smart they keep their own fly journals. We recently attempted to catch some of these smarties.

Just upstream from the bridge we noticed three float tubers one of which we recognized as Ernest Hemingway Jr., Jr., Jr. the III. He was teaching the other two whose names were Bell how to troll. He said he knew a guy from our club named Al something that he has also taught to troll (maybe it was the other way around). His great great grandfather has a memorial rock on the bank right where they were fishing, It has writing on it which said something like "This is our Place."

We inquired if they had caught any fish? They said, "with a 40 mph wind from the East and the river running to the West was not conducive to fish catching." We had never seen whitecaps on Silver Creek before -so maybe they were telling the truth! In fact they said it was too windy to fish and they weren't trolling but had been blown off the bridge while eating lunch.

Well if you get to Silver Creek, wind or no wind, you have to make at least one cast to say you have fished Silver Creek. As soon as the Hopper/ Dropper hit the top of one of those whitecaps a huge rainbow flew out of the water-missed the Hopper and swallowed the Dropper (a little yellow sally) and the fight was on! [Obviously the little yellow sally was not in the fish's journal.]

A crowd of Californians arrived from downwind and having never seen an Idaho wild rainbow trout ask to take pictures and maybe make a movie of our adventure. We bid farewell to the Hemingway bunch and head back to Weiser and our buddies at Indianhead FlyFishers!



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SEPTEMBER 2015



Useful and Interesting Fly Fishing Links - *Come and Explore*



Club Member Makes Custom Flies in Lewiston

Marvin Orwig has moved to Lewiston, Idaho but he also sells his custom flies that he catches lots of fish with. Contact him at 208-484-6837 or fishguide43@gmail.com

Montana Fly Fishing Magazine (<http://MontanaFlyFishingMagazine.com/>)

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Everything to do with fly fishing in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Montana.